

Remarks

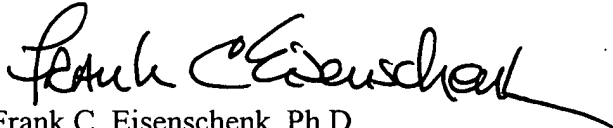
Claims 121-141, 150-152, and 163-171 are pending and subject to a restriction requirement in this application. By way of the amendment of this date, claim 152 has been amended and claims 172-182 have been added. Therefore, claims 121-141, 150-152, and 163-182 are now before the Examiner for consideration. The subject invention provides unique and advantageous methods related to PCTA-1-related biallelic markers and complements thereof. Certain of the claims have been amended for the purpose of expediting the patent application process in a manner consistent with the Patent and Trademark Office Patent Business Goals (PBG), 65 Fed. Reg. 54603 (September 8, 2000), advance prosecution, and facilitate the business interests of Applicants. Support for these new claims and the amendments to the pending claims can be found throughout the subject specification, including, for example, at pages 104-106. Favorable consideration of the claims now presented, in view of the remarks and amendments set forth herein, is earnestly solicited.

In response to the written restriction requirement dated April 18, 2001, and pursuant to the agreement reached in the personal interview held May 21, 2001 between the undersigned, John Lucas, Ph.D., Christine Vanhee-Brossollet, and Supervisory Patent Examiner Michael Woodward, in the above-identified patent application, Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the invention of claim 152 (wherein the method utilizes at least one PCTA-1-related biallelic marker located at position 402, 67092, 68525, 82234, or 82393 of SEQ ID NO. 1, and any complement thereof).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

Applicants also invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank C. Eisenschenk, Ph.D.

Patent Attorney

Registration No. 45,332

Phone No.: 352-375-8100

Fax No.: 352-372-5800

Address: Saliwanchik, Lloyd & Saliwanchik
A Professional Association
2421 NW 41st Street, Suite A-1
Gainesville, FL 32606-6669

FCE/jaj

Attachments: Marked-Up Version of Amended Claim
(Amendment) Transmittal Form
Petition for One-Month Extension of Time
Fee Transmittal Form

Marked-Up Version of Amended Claim

152. The method according to claim 150, wherein said PCTA-1-related biallelic marker is at least one PCTA-1-related biallelic marker selected from the group consisting of biallelic markers of SEQ ID NO. 1 located at positions 402, 67092, 68525, 82234, or 82393 of SEQ ID NO. 1, and any complements thereof.